



Dexter National Fish Hatchery & Technology Center Biographies – Directors & Unit Leaders

Manuel E. Ulibarri, B.S., Center Director

Expertise: Program Development and Coordination.

Manuel began his fisheries career as a student intern working for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Over the past 22 years he has overseen all operations at four USFWS Region 2 facilities. During this time he has developed expertise in warm water fish culture, specializing in the conservation of threatened and endangered aquatic species.

Connie Keeler-Foster, Ph.D., Research Leader

Expertise : Conservation and Ecological Genetics

Dr. Keeler-Foster is a native of New Mexico, and her research focuses on the conservation genetics of rare and endemic species. She is actively involved in writing genetic management plans for endangered propagated fish, and oversees research conducted by the facility.

Teresa D. Lewis, PhD, Fish Health Unit Leader

Expertise: Fish Health Biologist. Dr. Lewis joined the Dexter Fish Health Unit on October 26, 2008. Dr. Lewis is originally from Oklahoma and earned her PhD in Marine and Marine Science/College of William and Mary. She has collaborated with many partners while in Hawaii, including the Hawaii Aquaculture Development Program, NOAA Sea Grant, USGS National Wildlife Health Center, Pacific Island groups and local Aquaculture businesses to address animal health issues. Dr. Lewis is very hands-on in her approach to fish health diagnostics and has strong ties with the fish health communities throughout the U.S.